

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-7, 9-11, and 13-47 will be pending in the application. Claims 2-7, 9-11, and 13-46 are withdrawn. Claim 1 is amended herein. Claim 47 is added. Exemplary support for the new claim is located in the specification at page 4, lines 23-24. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

As an initial matter, Applicants respectfully note that an initialed copy of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement submitted December 3, 2003 has not been received. Acknowledgement of consideration of the references cited therein is respectfully requested.

An objection to the specification has been made. As noted on the transmittal sheet that accompanied the December 29, 1999 filing of the present application, this application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/967,625, filed November 12, 1997, which claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/030,961, filed November 15, 1996, each of which is incorporated by reference into the specification. The specification has been amended to update the priority claim. Withdrawal of the objection is thus respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for alleged lack of written description. The claim has been amended to recite "[a] substantially pure peptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2." Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for alleged anticipation by Anderson *et al.* (*J. Bacteriol.*, 1989, 171(12):6468-6472). Claim 1 has been amended to omit reference to SEQ ID NO:1. Because the Anderson reference fails to teach or suggest a substantially pure peptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 also is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for alleged anticipation by Dechert *et al.* (*J. Neurochem.*, 1989, 53(4):1268-1275). Claim 1 has been amended to omit reference to SEQ ID NO:1. Because the Dechert reference fails to teach or suggest a substantially pure peptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claim 1 is further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for alleged anticipation by PCT Publication WO95/00160 to Yuan *et al.* Claim 1 is amended herein to recite a substantially pure peptide comprising *the* amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2. Because the Yuan reference fails to teach or suggest a substantially pure peptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is rejected under section 102(e) for alleged anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 6,288,037 to Talanian *et al.* Claim 1 has been amended to omit reference to SEQ ID NO:1. Because the Talanian patent fails to teach or suggest a substantially pure peptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 215-557-5908.

Respectfully submitted,



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